

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (canceled)

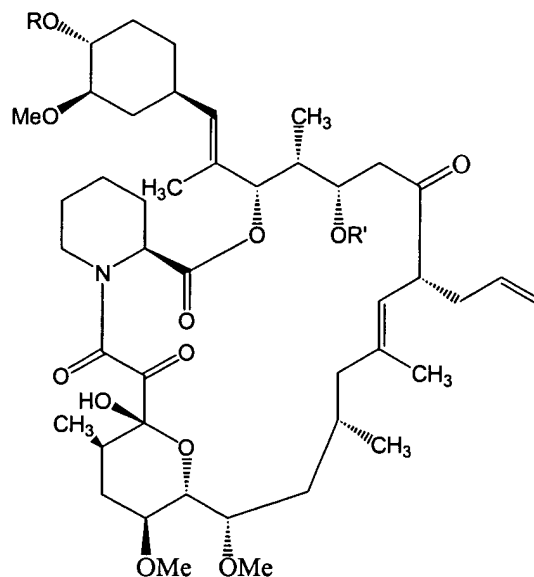
2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

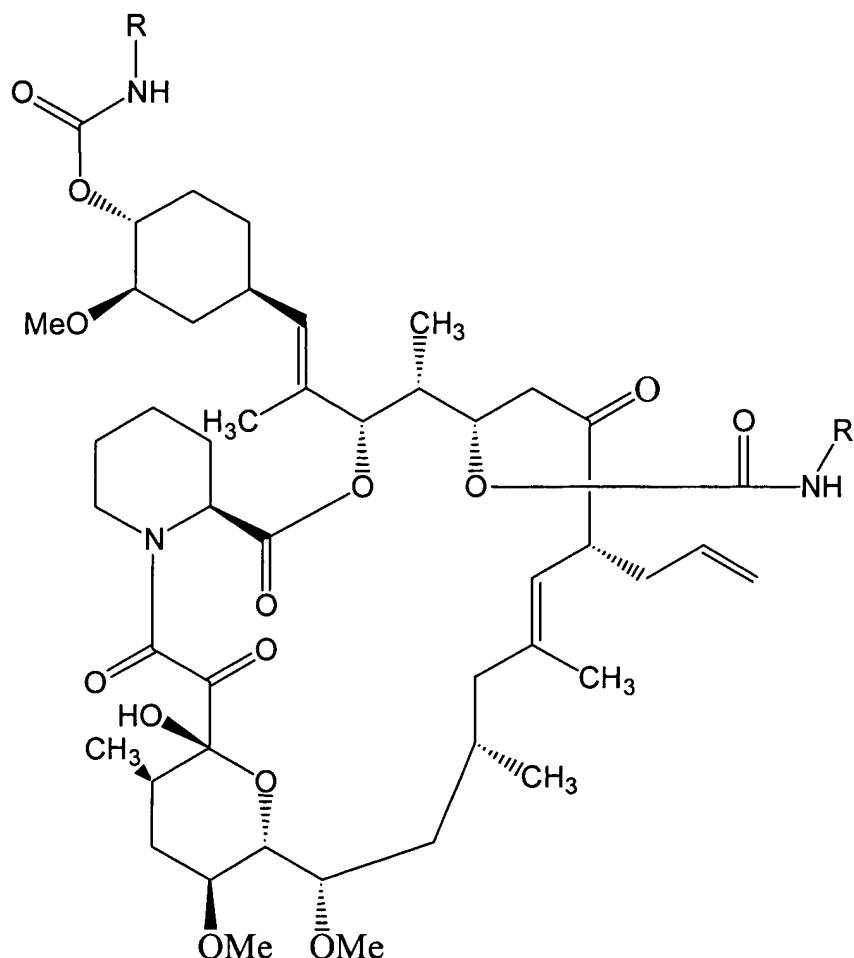
5. (canceled)

6. (Currently amended) An assay releasing reagent for macrophilins comprising (a) an effective amount of the compound having the formula:



wherein R is contains an alkyl, aryl, allyl, carbonyl, carboxylate, amide, ester, phosphonate, phosphate, sulfonate, sulfate, amidine, or carbamate functional group; and R' is contains an alky aryl, allyl, carbonyl, carboxylate, amide, ester, phosphonate, phosphate, sulfonate, sulfate, amidine, or carbamate functional group or H; and  
(b) a buffer solution.

7. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence of a macrophilin-binding pharmaceutical ~~composition~~ in a sample comprising: adding to the sample a binding competitor of the formula;




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wherein R is R is alkyl, aryl, allyl, each having less than 25 carbons or H, and R' is alkyl, aryl, allyl, each having less than 25 carbons or H ~~of claim 1 to the sample~~; adding a receptor that binds to the pharmaceutical but not significantly to the binding competitor; detecting the receptor-pharmaceutical ~~composition~~ and determining the amount of the pharmaceutical.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the the pharmaceutical is rapamycin (sirolimus), everolimus or tacrolimus (FK506).

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the pharmaceutical is rapamycin (sirolimus), everolimus or tacrolimus (FK506).

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12. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence of a macrophilin-binding pharmaceutical ~~composition~~ in a sample comprising: adding a binding competitor of the formula of claim 6 to the sample; adding a receptor that binds to the pharmaceutical but not significantly to the binding competitor; detecting the receptor-pharmaceutical ~~composition~~ and determining the amount of the pharmaceutical.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the pharmaceutical is rapamycin, (sirolimus), everolimus or tacrolimus (FK506).

14. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein R or R' is ethyl.